

# PERU.

**—Arrival of a Cuban Envoy—Reported Purchase of the Galapagos Islands by the United States—Admiration for Ex-Secretary Seward.**

LIMA, Dec. 21, 1869.

By the last steamer from Panama arrived Mr. Ambrosio Valiente, accredited to this government as Minister from the republican government of Cuba. This gentleman, when in Lima some months since succeeded in obtaining the recognition of Cuba by Peru, first as a belligerent and secondly as an independent nation, and now appears again upon the scene with two very important objects to fulfil. The first of these is to be the endeavor to induce the Peruvian government to interest itself materially in the Cuban cause by sending to that brave country the fleet now under way for Callao and at the present moment receiving repairs in Rio Janeiro. This squadron, consisting in the first instance of the two celebrated monitors and their tenders, has been increased by the corvette Union, a formidable vessel of fourteen heavy guns, and will shortly receive as an addition the steamer Chalaco, the fastest vessel of the Peruvian navy, now en route to join the monitors. Every effort will be used by Mr. Valiente and his supporters here to attain this object; but his success is doubtful in the highest degree. It is also the earnest desire of the Cuban representative to put every obstacle in the way of the Peruvian acceptance of the proposal of a congress of plenipotentiaries, made by the United States, to arrange a definite peace between the allied republics of the Pacific and Spain. This cheerful wish on the part of the Cuban is, of course, motivated by the strong effort being made to secure the monitors, which naturally would be frustrated by the consent of Peru to the mediation arrangement. Instructions have been received here by the Legation of the United States to press the acceptance of the mediation on the government of Peru, and in view of the protocol already signed by the four allied republics, and the official consent of the Spanish Cabinet to the matter, to induce Peru to send full powers to her Minister at Washington, so that the negotiations might be initiated on the 15th of January next. The Peruvian government has made an official reply on the subject, and your correspondent is reliably informed that Mr. Valiente's wishes have had no weight with the resolution of President Daza's Cabinet, and that the desires of the United States have been fully acceded to. Peru, having satisfied her honor by thrashing the Spaniards on the 2d of May, 1868, has no reason for continuing a war which, while it does no damage to herself, is inconvenient to many neutral nations to whom she is under greater or lesser obligations.

It appears that the desire evinced by Mr. Seward, when in office, of augmenting the amount of real estate possessed by the United States is still being manifested in regard to this coast. The government of Ecuador some time since passed a bill, by which authority was conferred upon the Executive to raise the sum of \$12,000,000 by the sale or mortgage of the national property, and up to within a few days nothing farther had been heard concerning the matter. The last news from that country, however, states that the Galapagos Islands are to be sold to the American government, and that negotiations are actually being carried on to bring the matter about. These islands, lying nearly 200 miles from the coast, in about five degrees north latitude, are almost uninhabited, although they were formerly used by Ecuador as a penal colony, and now are only frequented by a few whaling vessels, who replenish their stock of provisions from the innumerable turtles abundant on the islands. Whether the report of the proposed sale and purchase be true or not it has caused considerable excitement and comment here, and the leading journals deplore a step which they say brings a nation which, though a republic, still one of the most powerful in the world, so near the doors of the feeble South American States.

Mr. Seward has always been regarded with the highest respect and admiration in Peru, and the recent announcement that he proposes visiting this country before returning to the United States has caused a very pleasurable excitement. The official newspaper, in commenting upon the probable event, states that he will be considered as a national guest, and as by far the most distinguished visitor that has honored Peru since its independence. The Americans here would be proud of an opportunity of showing their respect to so distinguished a countryman.

The American ship Kendrick Fish, 1,326 tons register, built in Thomaston, Me., and belonging to Messrs. S. Walls & Co., of that place, was buried in the Bay of Callao on the morning of the 17th inst. Every effort was made to save the vessel, and her cargo, the latter consisting of coals, and it was only possible to tow her in twenty-four feet of water, where she now remains, just showing her deck. The ship and cargo were insured, and the ship may be raised, though it is doubtful if such an expensive measure would be warranted.

The United States steamer Kearsarge is still in

not waiting for the arrival of the News from  
London, we proceeded to Yalta and also on a cruise. We  
are not informed when the actual order proposed to  
be as a title